

## APPENDIX:

# U15 (Combined Boy's and Girl's)

See below for competition specific details. The rules and details contained in the main body of the Competitors' Guide apply to this competition. In the event there is a perceived conflict between the Competitors' Guide and this Appendix, this Appendix is considered to take priority.

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This Appendix is subject to further review and evaluation on, at a minimum, an annual basis.

At least one parent/legal guardian of every curler under the age of 18 must complete the online Safe Sport Program in order to participate in any Curling Alberta sanctioned event, with the athletes within the U15, U18, and Masters categories being strongly recommended to complete the online Safe Sport Program as well. To complete Safe Sport training, parents must sign up for 'The Locker' via the Coaches Association of Canada website. Access the Safe Sport Program website, information, and participant training here: <https://coach.ca/sport-safety/safe-sport-training>

Please ensure that proof of Safe Sport Training completion is uploaded to the curler's Curling Alberta Sideline Learning profile prior to the start of competition. If it is not uploaded to Sideline, then the requirements have not been met to compete. Curling Alberta's Sideline Learning can be found here: <https://curlingalberta.sidelinelearning.com/login>

Teams competing in Curling Alberta U15 Provincial Qualifiers do so with the knowledge that they must continue to play at all levels, up to and including the Provincial Championship event, until they are eliminated. A competitor may enter the U15 category and another category (e.g. U18) as long as there is no date conflict up to and including the Provincial Championship.

Alternates (5th players) are not permitted in the U15 competition. Substitutes or replacement players must provide proof of birth date prior to playing their first game. See Section 1(B)(1) in the Competitors' Guide for more information specific to substitution and replacement players.

Please note that teams in the U15 category can include any combination of male and/or female curlers.

The draw and schedule for the Provincial Qualifiers and Provincial Championships will be supplied to all teams and posted on the Curling Alberta Website.

## A. PROVINCIAL QUALIFIERS

1. Additional details and format are as described in Sections 1 and 2 of the Curling Alberta Provincial Berth Policy.
2. 14 Provincial berths are awarded in total, all through Provincial Qualifiers.
3. All games are 8 ends, plus extra end(s) if needed.
4. Coaches will utilize Curling Canada's Coach Interactions - U15 category rules. Two (2) interactions will be allowed per end.
5. Games will not be timed. Pace of play may be further managed by the Chief Umpire.
6. Teams must have a coach during any Curling Alberta U15 competition. Coaches at this competition are considered a team member and must abide by all relevant policies and team expectations (see the Competitors' Guide for details).

## B. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1. All team members are required to comply with the Cresting positioning noted in the Cresting Policy on the Curling Alberta website.
2. Although teams are encouraged to wear matching uniforms, dress standards noted in Section 2(A)(1) of the Competitors' Guide do not apply. Curling-appropriate attire is expected. Jeans are not to be worn in the Field of Play. This applies to coaches and players.
3. All games are 8 ends, plus extra end(s) if needed. Games will not be timed. Pace of play may be further managed by the Chief Umpire.
4. Teams must have a coach, and the coach must be present at the event facility. Coaches at this competition are considered team members and must abide by all relevant policies and team expectations (see the Competitors' Guide for details).
5. Coaches will utilize the Curling Canada's Coach Interactions - U15 category rules. Two (2) interactions will be allowed per end.
6. The pools will be seeded in advance of the Championship using the team's Qualifying position in the Provincial Qualifiers and randomly drawn to

determine their exact seed. For example, if there are four (4) A-Qualifiers, they will be randomly drawn to fill seeds 1-4, The next four (4) B-Qualifiers will be positions 5-8, and so on for C-Qualifiers.

7. The U15 Championship will be a 14-team field split into two pools of seven (7) teams each. Each team will play a Round Robin within their pool, and the top four teams from each pool will advance to the Championship pool. Pool composition will be based on the results of the Provincial Qualifiers, with the overarching goal of making the pools as equal as possible.
8. Teams will practice for 9 minutes, with unlimited throws. After 9 minutes, teams will conduct 2 draws for hammer (LSD), one with a clockwise (CW) rotation and one with a counterclockwise (CCW) rotation. Each player must deliver one (1) LSD with each rotation during the Round Robin. These results are used for LSFE (hammer) and breaking ties. No tie breaker games will be played.
9. PLAYOFFS:
  - a. At the completion of the Round Robin, 8 teams will be placed into a single elimination playoff section. The top 4 teams from each pool will move on to the playoff round, unless the win/loss record for 5<sup>th</sup> in one pool is better than 4<sup>th</sup> in another pool. *For example, if a team finishes fourth in pool A with a 1-3 record, but the fifth team in pool B finishes 3-1, then the team with the better win/loss record will be placed ahead in playoffs.*
  - b. Ties within pools will be broken based on the teams' head-to-head record where possible, and then Draw Shot Challenge (DSC) score.
  - c. The playoff bracket will be seeded as follows:
    - i. Team A1vsB4, A2vsB3, A3vsB2, and A4vsB1 unless:
      1. A team from one pool has a BETTER record than a team from another pool.
      2. For example, team 1 placed 5<sup>th</sup> in pool A with a 3-3 W/L record, and team 2 placed 4<sup>th</sup> in pool B with a 2-4 W/L record. Team 1 would advance to the playoff round instead of team 2 and will be seeded in place of pool B4.
  - d. A playoff meeting will be held after the completion of pool play with the coaches. All other teams will qualify for the consolation round.
  - e. When teams are from the same pool:
    - **Better W/L record teams:** will have BOTH choice of colour (*stone handle colour*) AND LSFE (*Last Stone First End*) in the playoffs.

- **Same W/L record teams:** the team that won the round robin game will have choice of colour OR LSFE.
  - If teams have the same W/L record and team Singles scores, the DSC (Draw Shot Challenge) will be used to rank teams. The team ranked higher will have choice of colour OR practice session, and teams will deliver LSD(s) to determine LSFE. Once DSC ranking is used, it is the only ranking factor, and head-to-head results are not used.
- f. When teams are from different pools:
- If a team has a better W/L record they will receive **both** LSFE and stone colour.
  - If teams have the same W/L record, and the DSC was used to rank teams, the team ranked higher will have **choice** of stone color or practice session, and LSD will be delivered to determine LSFE.
- g. The Championship Playoff is single elimination (i.e., winners advance, losers are eliminated), and the consolation playoff sections are single knockout (i.e., winners advance, losers are eliminated). The top two teams in each playoff section will be recognized. Only Gold and Silver medals will be awarded.
- i. In all playoff games, the team with the better win-loss record will be awarded hammer in the first end and will have the first practice.
  - ii. In the event that both teams have the same win-loss record, the same practice and LSD procedures used in the Round Robin will apply.

As per Curling Alberta's Code of Conduct, please be advised that competitors and coaches are prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages during any U15, U18, U20, or U20 Mixed Doubles events sanctioned by Curling Alberta. This shall include the entire time period from departure to the competition through to and including arrival at home from the event.